

HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 24, 2008

The Hamilton County Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, January 24, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. at the Hamilton County Highway Department, 1700 S. 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana. President Altman called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present of Commissioner Christine Altman, Commissioner Steven C. Dillinger and Commissioner Steven A. Holt.

146th Street West

Davis presented an update on the 146th Street West project (Springmill Road to the Boone County Line). Davis stated we need to finalize access. Altman asked United Consulting to put together an Executive Summary of what Boone County is doing for connectivity to the west. Mike Rowe, United Consulting, discussed what they have looked at for limited access for 146th Street. They have looked into buying limited access, grandfathering in existing drive access and providing field access. One of the alternatives puts right of way breaks for each of the parcels throughout the corridor with future easements for developments to give access to side streets so there would not be any local roads between the intersections. The second alternative was to introduce frontage roads and not allowing any breaks other than very minor breaks near Springmill Road, where there is existing development. Dillinger asked what is the project distance? Rowe stated 3.8 miles. The old 146th Street will be used for a frontage road on the south side and introducing new frontage roads to give access to the parcels. Dillinger asked how much additional right of way is required? Rowe estimated 50%, if the county builds the frontage roads. The initial corridor alignment study, prepared by American Structurepoint, shifted the alignment of 146th Street to the north. In order to preserve 146th Street and to reuse it we shifted it an additional 40 feet to the north. Dillinger asked how many residents are you affecting? Rowe stated there are 80 parcels. Mr. Mike Howard asked how many houses if you move to the north side? Rowe stated we would be taking one house. Dillinger asked if this has all been annexed? Altman stated yes, Carmel and Westfield have annexed. Dillinger asked how much input have we had from Carmel and Westfield? Davis stated none. Altman stated they would have seen the update to the thoroughfare plan. Howard asked if there is any commercial zoning designations on either side of the road? Rowe indicated no. Dillinger asked if we are looking to protect right of way or construction? Altman stated both. Holt asked on the less extreme plan, what happens to 146th Street? Rowe stated it would be removed or re-used. Altman asked Howard if existing road cuts for homes and fields have standing to ask for a cut for a subdivision or whatever? Howard stated we could condemn all access except one for each parcel. Howard stated you can not take an existing condition unless you provide a frontage road. Altman asked if access right in and right out is sufficient access? Howard stated he will have to review the new case law. For commercial the answer is no, he will need to check on the residential. Howard asked where are the road cuts? Rowe stated at Little Eagle Creek, Towne, Shelbourne, Ditch, and Springmill. Davis stated the highway department engineers also brainstormed about going to the ½ mile segment and creating a full access point and the frontage road would link into that. That would allow better access on the south side and it pre-determines access for future development. Dillinger asked if either municipality has done anything with commercial zoning? Howard stated it is Master Planned residential. Dillinger would like to meet with Mayor Cook and Mayor Brainard before we decide what to do. Holt would like a public information hearing held. Altman stated she favors the plan with fewer interruptions to the traffic flow. Davis asked if the commissioners would like to look at the 1 mile and ½ mile access points? Davis stating putting an access point at ½ mile point allows better access to the people on the frontage road and pre-determines access for future development. Mr. Jim Neal stated the current frontage roads run all the way from one intersection to the next, it is like a long cul-de-sac. Putting an access point in the middle may reduce the amount of road we have to build initially. Howard asked if we would have the right to close the access points later? Neal stated once the connection is made to either end, the key is to have the municipalities make the developers make the connections. Discussion of both plans was held. Holt stated he likes the plan that moves traffic with the 1 mile access points and would advocate swinging it south at the west end so you can keep 146th Street as a frontage road. Dillinger and Altman agreed. Altman would like Howard to talk with the United appraiser and think of the implications where we can be fair to the landowner long term and what makes sense for our construction dollars. Holt stated he is very opposed to the ½ mile idea. Davis stated the consensus is to not entertain the mid-mile break. Davis stated they will have United refine this plan and then set meetings with Mayor Cook and Mayor Brainard. The meeting with Mayor Cook will be Tuesday, January 29, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. at the highway department. Altman will set up the meeting with Mayor Brainard.

Holt stated he thought we had an interlocal agreement with Boone County for US 421? Dillinger stated it is an old agreement. Dillinger stated he recalls Boone County allowed us to do whatever we were already planning east to 421 on the small stretch that is in Boone County. Holt asked Kim Rauch to look for that interlocal agreement and then they should meet with the Boone County Commissioners.

96th Street and Fall Creek Road Intersection

Davis stated the 96th Street and Fall Creek Road intersection is a federal aid project. The plan is to award the project with construction beginning the first of the year. Davis stated a decision needs to be made on what we want to do at this intersection so the plans can be finalized and an interlocal agreement with Marion County for right of way can be drafted. Two options were discussed 1) signalized intersection and 2) a roundabout. Rowe stated they have been looking at a single left turn with a signal and a dual left turn with a signal on the eastbound movement. Dillinger stated he likes the roundabout. Holt and Altman agreed. Mr. Jeff Heiking stated the Town of Fishers likes the roundabout. Rowe stated the signal will take less right of way than the roundabout, during peak hours the signal and roundabout would operate at the same capacity, during non-peak hours the roundabout would operate better than a signal. Consensus was to use the roundabout.

Riverwalk Agreement

Davis requested the Commissioners initialize an additional paragraph for the Riverwalk agreement with INDOT. The additional language states that we acknowledge that we may be required to submit to an audit on the project.

Olio Road and I-69

Davis stated they have met with INDOT regarding Olio Road and I-69 to work on the maintenance agreement. INDOT has requested a \$50,000 maintenance fee that they will control the bridge, it will be in their inventory and they will be responsible for the bridge in turn of the county paying the maintenance. We have negotiated that fee to \$25,000 annually and they will put that in a draft agreement. Davis stated they will take care of re-decking, overlays, etc. to federal standards.

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Holt stated the Commissioners received the construction schedule from INDOT for projects in Hamilton County through 2012, they have additional ramps listed on I-69 at Fishers, both northbound and southbound. Holt asked what is the near term that is planned at that location? Davis stated he thinks most of this has been completed. Davis will find out.

Five Year Structure Improvement Program

Davis presented the Five Year Structure Improvement Program 2008-2012 to the Commissioners for review. This plan includes everything except Major Bridge.

Future Meetings

Tuesday, January 29, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. – Highway Meeting with Mayor Cook (146th Street West)
Monday, February 25, 2008 at 7:30 a.m. in Conference Room 1A – Highway (I-69 Update)
Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in Conference Room 1A – Executive Session (Personnel)

Holt motioned to adjourn. Dillinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously. [9:00]

Present

Christine Altman, Commissioner
Steven C. Dillinger, Commissioner
Steven A. Holt, Commissioner
Robin M. Mills, Auditor
Michael Howard, Attorney
Bradley Davis, Highway Director
Jim Neal, Highway Engineer
Fred Swift, Administrative Assistant to Commissioners
Kim Rauch, Administrative Assistant to Auditor
Joel Thurman, Highway Staff Engineer
Tim Knapp, Right of Way Specialist
Dave Lucas, Highway Staff Engineer
Matt Knight, Highway Staff Engineer
Dave Richter, United Consulting
Michael Rowe, United Consulting
Brian Craig, Unite Consulting
Jeff Heiking, Town of Fishers
Rob Borders, Noblesville Daily Times

APPROVED
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST

Robin M. Mills, Auditor